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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/657,430	09/07/2000	HIDEKI NAGATA	15162/02430	1547

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, KIMNHUNG T

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2674

DATE MAILED: 02/15/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/657,430

Applicant(s)

NAGATA ET AL.

Examiner

Kimnhung Nguyen

Art Unit

2674

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 October 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,6-13 and 16-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,10-13 and 20-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 6-9 and 16-19 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

### DETAILED ACTION

This application has been examined. Claims 1-2, 6-13 and 16-24 are pending. The examination results are as following.

#### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

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1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-2, 10-13 and 20-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Brooke (US 5,264,881).

Regarding claim 1, Brooke discloses in figure 1 an image display system (10) comprising at least two screens (1, 2) onto which images are projected; the at least two screens (1,2) forming inner wall faces of an observation room for housing an observer (see system 10 having a hatch cover 40 surrounded by several sight glasses (vision block), see col. 4, lines 27-32), at least one display device (12) for display the images that are to be projected onto the screens (1, 2), wherein the display device (12) is arranged outside the observation room such that optical paths from the images projected onto two of said at least two screens are different, and a total number of display devices (12, 14, 16) being smaller than a total number of screens (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6); and at least one projection optical system (see projection lens, see col. 3, lines 15-18) for projecting the images display on the display device onto the screens, wherein optical paths from the at least

Art Unit: 2674

one display device to the at least two screens have the same length (see fig. 1, see device 12 having optical paths having the same lengths).

Regarding claim 2, Brooke discloses in figure 1 that an image display system (10) wherein the projection optical system includes a mirror that reflects the images from the display device toward the screen (see col. 2, lines 64-68

Regarding claim 11, Brooke discloses in fig. 1, a method of building image display system comprising at least two screens (1,2) onto images are projected, wherein the screens form inner wall faces of an observation room for housing an observer (see system 10 having a hatch cover 40 surrounded by several sight glasses (vision block), see col. 4, lines 27-32), a step of installing at least one display device (12), outside the observation room, for display the images that are to be projected onto the screens (1, 2), wherein the images displayed on two of said at least two screens are different a total number of display devices (12, 14, 16) being smaller than a total number of screens (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6), and a step of installing at least one projection optical system (200) for projecting the images displayed on the display device onto the screens; and a step of projecting the images displayed on the display device through the projection optical system onto the screens (see fig. 1), wherein optical paths from the at least one display device to the at least two screen have substantially the same length ((see fig. 1, see device 12 having optical paths having the same lengths), and a step of projecting the images displayed on the display device through the projection optical system onto the screens.

Art Unit: 2674

Regarding claims 12-13, Brooke discloses in figure 1 that an image display system (10) wherein the projection optical system includes a mirror that reflects the images from the display device toward the screen (see col. 2, lines 64-68); the display device displays in different orientations the images projected by way of the mirror and the images projected not by way of the mirror.

Regarding claims 10, 20, Brooke discloses in fig. 1 that the method of building an image display system, wherein, in the step of projecting the images, the display device displays simultaneously the images projected onto the screens.

Regarding claims 21-22, Brooke discloses in figure 1, wherein a total number of projection optical system (projection lens, only 1) is less than to total number of screens (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6).

Regarding claims 23-24, Brooke et al. discloses in figure 1 that an image display system, wherein the at least one display device display an image that is upside-down.

#### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

3. Claims 6-9 and 16-19 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

4. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: None of the cited art teaches or suggests that an image display system as claimed in claim 1, wherein a total number of projection optical systems is equal to the total number of display

Art Unit: 2674

devices as claims 6 and 16, or a total number of projection optical system installed is equal to the total number of screens as claim 19.

***Response To Arguments***

5. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-2, 6-13 and 16-24 filed on 10/12/04 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

6. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Art Unit: 2674


***Correspondence***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kimnhung Nguyen whose telephone number is 703-308-0425. The examiner can normally be reached on MON-FRI, FROM 8:30 AM-5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Patrick Edouard can be reached on (703) 308-6725. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Kimnhung Nguyen  
February 10, 2005

  
**ALEXANDER EISEN  
PRIMARY EXAMINER**